

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 6, 2020**

Last week we heard Jesus tell his disciples that those who wish to follow must first take up their cross. One of these crosses is to take the responsibility to hold others accountable. Whether it is individually, like Ezekiel, or with a community, like the early church in Matthew, we are obligated to call others to account when they act unjustly or unmercifully. It can be difficult to correct a subordinate, awkward to correct a peer, and scary to correct a leader. But we are called to do so, out of love for our neighbor, so that a conversion of the heart may take place.

If you love your neighbor as yourself, as Saint Paul reminds the Romans that as Christians they are called to do, at the very least you will treat your neighbor the way you would want to be treated yourself. Therefore, he can say that Christians fulfill all the commandments, the entire law, by following this one principal command. Neither religious nor political authorities could find fault in that.

It is alarming to hear Jesus tell the disciples that if a sinner “refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector” (Matthew 18:17). Is Jesus telling his disciples to exclude sinners, just as society treats outsiders and collaborators? No, quite the opposite! Jesus has already extended his mission into Gentiles territory and welcome tax collectors into his fold. Jesus does not tell them to treat sinners as the Pharisees treat Gentiles and tax collectors, but as you would treat Gentiles and tax collectors. Jesus trusted that his disciples realized the goal is always reconciliation, not exclusion.

Question of the Week

What can I do to reconcile with someone whom I or others have excluded?



Mass Intentions

Saturday, September 5, 2020

Vigil Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30a.m. Tu Tran – Darrell & Bruce Gabriel –
Elodie Gabriel – Stephen S. Johnson III –
Claudia Claude

Sunday, September 6, 2020

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30a.m. Tu Tran – Darrell & Bruce Gabriel –
Elodie Gabriel – Earthy B. Lazard – Walter
Banks, III – Melvina Kepp – Freddie Thomas –
Betty Cates – Msgr. Gauthreaux – Calvin Tate –
Jerome Lomba, Sr. – Stephen S. Johnson, III
10:30a.m. Lordeas Glapion Nix – Beatrice
Pace Lamar and Shirley Smith – Evelyn Ford –
Gloria B. Lewis

12:00p.m. Msgr. Earl Gauthreaux – Intentions
of St. Maria Goretti Parishioners

Monday, September 7, 2020

8:30a.m. Katherine Bertrand – Msgr. Earl
Gauthreaux – Tu Tran – Intentions of Stacy
Martin – Kimberly Brown – Calvin Tate, Jr.

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

8:30a.m. Tu Tran – Msgr. Earl Gauthreaux –
Claudia Claude – Intentions of Stacey Martin –
Blair McDonald

Wednesday, September 9, 2020

8:30a.m. Tu Tran – Msgr. Earl Gauthreaux –
Intentions of Therol Humphrey – Henry Martin

Thursday, September 10, 2020

8:30a.m. Tu Tran – Msgr. Gauthreaux –
Intentions of Calvin Tate, Jr. – Kimberly Brown

Friday, September 11, 2020

8:30a.m. Tu Tran – Msgr. Earl Gauthreaux –
Claudia Claude – Intentions of Therol
Humphrey – Henry Martin

Saturday, September 12, 2020

8:30a.m. The living and deceased members of
the Catholic Negro American Mission.

There is nothing more that man needs than Divine Mercy – that love which is benevolent, which is compassionate, which raises man above his weakness to the infinite heights of the holiness of God. John Paul II

Announcements

No Eucharistic Adoration until further notice.

No Bingo until further Notice

Please remember to sign up for Mass prior to arriving at Church. We will no longer offer on site sign up. If you do not have access to a computer or smartphone you may call the parish office to sign up. You can find the link on our website and on the parish Facebook page. Sign-up for the desired mass the day before for week day masses and by 12:00pm (noon) on Saturday for all week end masses.

We will no longer pass the basket for collections. Instead, we will have two baskets in the back of Church as you enter. Please drop your envelopes there before or after Mass.

Just a note, we have moved all daily Masses to the main Church until the medical professionals find a way to contain the virus. So, if you don't feel comfortable coming on the weekends you may find this as a better option.

On September 9th, a number of parishes in the Archdioceses will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation in keeping with the diocesan tradition. We will offer the Sacrament here at St. Maria Goretti from 5:00 pm. to 6:30 pm. All COVID mitigation methods will be in place.



Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp in the Church for this week will burn in memory of Evelyn Know. The Sanctuary Lamps in the Chapel this week will burn for the intentions of Gloria Breaux and Evangeline Madison

Prayer for Hurricane Season

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed your order and returned to its former quietude. You are still the Master of the land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade the land and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to you, O Loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time. O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our Beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your son in our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach heavenly Jerusalem where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen

We welcome everyone into our parish. If you have not filled out a census card, the cards can be found on the table at the entrance of the church.

May the name of the Lord be praised throughout the world forever!